

The Weather
North Carolina: Cloudy
Wednesday, colder on coast;
Thursday rain by night.
Highest temperature, 54;
lowest, 41; precipitation, .02

The News and Observer

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GREATEST WORK OF THE CONGRESS IS ACCOMPLISHED

President Wilson Affixes His Signature to the New Currency Law

PORTRAYAL OF SCENES Attending the Final Act That Gives the Country Machinery For Free and Elastic and Uncontrolled Credits

FIRST TIME IN FIFTY YEARS

Speaker Clark Predicts Period of Prosperity to Follow Its Enactment

OFFICIAL FAMILY PRESENT

Four Gold Pens Used, Three of Them Going to Chairmen

Owen and Glass and Secretary McAdoo

THE PRESIDENT'S TALK

Washington, D. C., Dec. 23.—President Wilson signed the Glass-Owen currency bill at 6:01 o'clock tonight in the presence of members of his cabinet, the Congressional Committee on Banking and Currency, and Democratic leaders in Congress generally.

With a few strokes of the pen, the President invoked to law the measure to be known as the Federal Reserve Act, reorganizing the nation's banking and currency system, and furnishing in the words of the President, "the machinery for free and elastic and uncontrolled credits, put at the disposal of the merchants and manufacturer of this country for the first time in fifty years."

Enthusiastic applause ran through the ceremony not only as the President affixed his signature, but as he delivered an extemporaneous characterization of the measure to take common counsel with the business men of the country and the latter's efforts to meet the government's business advances as the "constitution of peace."

The event came at the close of a day of rejoicing in the national capital, for Congress had recessed for two weeks for the first time since it convened last April. The Democratic leaders were jubilant because they had completed two big pieces of legislation—tariff and currency reform—in nine months, a performance which they considered unprecedented in the history of the country.

Credit to Glass and Owen.—"I need not tell you," said the President to the assembled group as he took up his pen, "that I feel a very deep gratification at being able to sign this bill and I feel that I ought to express very heartily the admiration I have for the men who have made it possible for me to sign this bill. There have been currents and counter-currents, but the stream has moved forward."

Not a Partisan Measure.—"I think we owe special recognition to the patience and the leadership and the skill and the force of the chairmen of the two committees behind them, have stood the committees themselves exercising a degree of serenity and intelligent foresight in this matter which undoubtedly has redounded to the benefit of the bill itself."

"Then there have grown, as we have advanced in this business and the great piece of business which preceded it, evidences of team work that to my mind have been very notable indeed. Only constructive action, only the action which accomplishes something, his men with the enthusiasm and cooperation, and I think that at this session of Congress, we have witnessed an accumulating pleasure and enthusiasm on the part of the membership of both houses in seeing substantial and lasting things accomplished."

"It is a matter of real gratification to me that in the case of this bill there should have been so considerable a number of Republican votes cast for it. All great measures under our system of government are of necessity party measures, for the party of the majority is responsible; for their origination and their passage; but this cannot be a partisan measure, as it is the relief of all intimations of that sort by the cordial cooperation of men on the other side of the two houses who have acted with us and have given very substantial reasons for our action in acting with us. So that I think we can go home with the feeling that we are in better spirit for public service than we were ever when we convened in April."

"As for the bill itself, I feel that we can say that it is the first of a series of constructive measures by which the Democratic party will show that it knows how to serve the country."

JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED

To Conditionally Suspend the Canal Act Provision

GRANTING FREE PASSAGE

To American Coastwise Vessels—The Conditions Upon Which Suspension Would Be Subject, Concerns Payment of Tolls By Vessels of the United States.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 23.—A joint resolution to conditionally suspend operation of the provision of the Panama Canal act granting free passage to American coastwise vessels was introduced today by Chairman Adamson, of Georgia, of the House Commerce Committee.

The resolution would be subject to the following conditions: "At any time after the Panama Canal shall have been opened and successfully operated for two years, if, in the judgment of the President, the revenues derived from tolls of vessels other than those engaged in the coastwise trade of the United States shall be sufficient to defray the cost of maintaining and operating the canal and expense of government and sanitation of the canal zone and all diplomatic questions touching the treatment of the vessels as to condition or charges of traffic at the canal shall have been adjusted, then the President is authorized to issue an executive order declaring such suspended exemption of full force and effect."

It would further provide that from the date of such an executive order the exemption should be allowed, but until the time vessels of the United States should pay the same tolls as others.

Free Toll Provision Under Protest.—The free toll provision now is under diplomatic protest. Representative Adamson introduced the resolution on his own responsibility and it will not go before Congress as an administration measure. It was said in official circles, however, that the absence of the administration did not mean that the proposed act was disapproved. Any declaration of policy on the subject has been avoided since President Wilson assumed office last March.

The Free Tolls Understanding.—When Ambassador Bryce left Washington in April it was generally understood that he had secured some sort of assurance that no effort would be made by the United States to execute the free toll provisions. There has been no official confirmation of this, but significance has been attached to the fact that the negotiations between Washington and London in regard to the tolls question came to a complete stop about that time and the British government has made no effort to resume them.

The weight of opinion in official circles is that, now that Sir Cecil Spring Rice, the present British Ambassador, has regained his health, he will be prepared to resume the negotiations at the point where they were suspended, though he probably will wait a reasonable time to afford Congress an opportunity to act upon the Adamson bill.

Statement by Author of Resolution.—Representative Adamson, in a statement tonight explaining his resolution, declared it did not involve the principle of granting a subsidy to special interests but that it afforded an opportunity to clear up the international phases and to test contentions of all sides in the canal toll controversy.

"Those of us who advocated uniform tolls," said Mr. Adamson, "rest our case largely on the contention that the tolls would be needed to operate the canal, to prevent the operation and maintenance from becoming a charge on the treasury. Most of those who advocated exemption for the coastwise trade confessed that if the government really needed the tolls to operate the canal, then they would not insist on the exemption, but they contended that there would be a large surplus of tolls from other vessels and that the exemption could well be afforded considering the plethora of revenue."

Considered the Stipulations.—"On the other proposition, the advocates of uniform tolls, while it is domestic proposition, and before England had been heard from at all, considered the treaty stipulations and sought to avoid violation of them. The advocates of exemption, insisting that the treaty stipulations were not violated, asserted that they would not consent to violate a treaty, and that if it really was a violation of a treaty they would not insist upon the exemption."

"The leading exponent on the floor of the House suggested that the exception be made and that if England objected, a case be made for determination at The Hague. Since that exemption was made that gentleman and others of his associates object to arbitration at all."

What Resolution Proposes.—This resolution proposes two things: First, an experimental test to demonstrate whether or not the tolls will pay the expenses of operation of the canal exclusive of the tolls of the coastwise trade, and the other is to afford opportunity to adjust all questions of diplomacy touching the tolls. Assuming that the advocates of exemption were sincere in their contention on these two propositions, it should not prove embarrassing to them at all, nor be regarded as any abandonment of their position to pass this resolution to test the correctness of the two contentions in the two propositions."

MILLION FOR BETTER ROADS.

Used in Rural Mail Service is Asked of Congress by P. M. General.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 23.—An appropriation of \$1,000,000 for improvement of roads used in the rural mail service was asked of Congress today in a letter forwarded through Secretary McAdoo.

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS



"Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the house
Not a creature was stirring—not even a mouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In the hope that St. Nicholas soon would be there.
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads;
The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
Gave the lustre of midday to objects below—
When what to my wondering eyes should appear,
With a little old driver so lively and quick
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick,
More rapid than eagles his courses they came,
And he whistled and shouted and called them by name—
"Now, dasher! now, dancer! now, plucker! now, Vixen!
On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Dunder and Blitzen!
To the top of the porch, to the top of the wall!
Now, dash away! dash away! dash away all!"
As dry leaves before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky,
So up to the house-top the convicts they flew,
With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas too,
And then in a twinkling I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each tiny hoof.
As I drew up my head, and was turning around,
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.
He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;
A bundle of toys he had slung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.
His eyes-how they twinkled! his dimples-how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry;
His droll little mouth was drawn up in a bow,
And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow.
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And he chomped and chomped, a right jolly old elf.
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself.
A wink of his eye, and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings—they tumbled with a jerk,
And laying his fingers aside of himself,
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew, like the down of a thistle;
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,
"Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"

FOR POSTMASTERS IN NORTH CAROLINA

Five Hundred and Seventy Offices Open by Civil Service EXAMINATIONS FEBRUARY

Official Order Just Issued By Civil Service Commission for Fourth Class Postmasters Designates Ninety Places Where Examinations Will Be Held.

Five hundred and seventy fourth-class postoffices in North Carolina are now open to all who desire them and who can succeed in passing the examination required. The order for these examinations has just been issued by the United States Civil Service Commission, and they will be held at different dates in February, 1914, the first to be held on February 1, 1914, the last to be held on February 15, 1914. These examinations will be held at 89 places in North Carolina and one in Danville, Va., for places in North Carolina near to that place. The circular of information giving the places of examination are the fourth class postoffices for which the examinations will be held, with information as to securing the necessary blanks, signed by John A. McHenry, president of the Civil Service Commission, is as follows:
By Executive Order.
1. An Executive Order issued by the President requires competitive examinations by the Commission for the position of postmaster at all fourth-class postoffices at which the annual compensation is \$130 or more, and at which the present incumbent was not appointed under the Civil Service Regulations.
2. Examinations for fourth-class postmasters under the order mentioned will be held on the dates and at the places specified below.
(Continued on Page Seven.)

NEGRO DESPERADO SHOT BY OFFICER

Who Had Warrant for His Arrest — West Hines First Fired on Police Chief.

(By the Associated Press.)
Goldboro, Dec. 23.—West Hines, a notorious negro desperado, who has figured in the criminal courts of this and other cities of the State and Virginia, was shot and seriously wounded here today by officers who had the warrant for his arrest on a charge of robbery yesterday.
Fired at Police Chief.
Chief Denmark, who had the warrant, accosted Hines in the alley near the city hall about noon and ordered him under arrest. Hines refused to obey and swore he would not go with the chief and when the officer attempted to lay hands on him he fired on him, but the officer was alert and returned the fire with such effect that Hines broke into a run and escaped through the back lots of the city hall.
Subsequently it was learned that Hines had gone to the home of his mother in the vicinity of the stand-warehouse and Deputy Sheriff Toler and Policeman Fulham were sent to search for him there. They found him in bed and ordered him up.
Fought Another With Brick.
He got up, and under the pretense of looking for a clean shirt, managed to pass the door, out of which he leaped into a run. The officers gave chase, and with pistol shots brought him to bay in the field near the Smithfield railroad, where, with a brick in his hand he turned upon Officer Fulham to assault him. The officer fired and Hines fell.
Dangerously Wounded.
He lay where he fell until County Coroner C. E. Stanley arrived on the scene and removed him to the home of his mother, where at a late hour tonight he was still lying.

EVERY WARSHIP TO BE A SCHOOL SHIP

With the Advent of the New Year ORDER SECRETARY OF NAVY

Promulgated Putting Into Effect His New Educational System — Every Detail of Plan Been Worked Out and the Hope Is for Increased Efficiency.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 23.—Every American warship will be a school ship with the advent of the new year. Secretary Daniels today promulgated an order putting into effect his new educational system in the navy.
On January 1, and thereafter, for an hour and a quarter each afternoon every enlisted man on the warship will be engaged in self-improvement under the watchful eyes of his commanding officer. Commissioned, warrant and petty officers will be designated to act as pedagogues.
Assistance and Encouragement.
Enlisted men now taking correspondence courses with outside institutions will receive assistance and encouragement, and those chief petty officers who are seeking promotion to warrant rank, and the warrant officers who are trying for commissions, will be formed into classes for special instructions to encourage those who are ambitious.
Every detail of this plan has been worked out and the order expresses the hope that the men will fully appreciate the zealous interest of their officers so that there will be increased efficiency in all practical directions.
Training of Enlisted Men.
The navy's needs have not been lost sight of in this attempt to give the men academic instructions, for the order gives attention to every possible detail of the training of the enlisted men in matters which will render them more efficient in the military direction.

WEBB CONFIRMED BE SWORN IN TODAY

Commission On the Way He Will Soon Be in Charge

DORTCH ALSO CONFIRMED

And Several N. C. Postmasters. Exodus of Congressmen and Capitol Attaches for Their Holiday at Home—New Appointments of Tarheels—Manly McDowell's Position.

(By W. E. YELVERTON.)
Washington, Dec. 23.—J. M. Bailey, of Greensboro, will hold the job of Marshal for the Western District of North Carolina as long, perhaps as Friday morning. Then he will be displaced by Chas. A. Webb, who was confirmed by the Senate today and will be sworn in tomorrow. He will receive his commission as soon as the mails can take it to him and will probably take charge of the office Friday. Thus by swift action today was the appointment of Judge Ford, who took occasion to disapprove of the manner in which the head of his department had removed Mr. Bailey, made more or less of a joke.

Marshal Dortch Confirmed.
W. T. Dofich's appointment was likewise confirmed today. Senator Overman had before the executive session requested Senator Goff, who objected yesterday, to withdraw his objection. This accomplished there was no more fight and the confirmations followed swiftly.

Three postmasters were confirmed at the same time, Louis G. Daniels at New Bern; R. S. Montgomery at Raleigh; and John H. Swann at Marshall.

The nominations of these postmasters were sent to the Senate last night at 11:30, together with Alfred M. Saunders at Smithfield, and W. A. Gibson at Bryson City. These two were not confirmed by the Senate and go over until after the holidays.

Senator Simmons and Mr. Gudger Remain a While.
Senator Simmons and Representative Gudger will be the only North Carolina members of Congress who will spend the holidays in Washington. Senator Simmons may go to New Bern later but has no intention of going within the next few days.

Senator Overman and the House members who did not go today left tonight. Practically all the Secretaries and other Capitol attaches from the State have gone or are going. So great was the exodus southwestward today that it was impossible at 2 o'clock this afternoon to obtain a Pullman reservation on any of the lines going south from Washington tonight.

Secretary Daniels will spend Christmas Eve and the greater part of Christmas Day here, leaving for Raleigh Thursday night.

John Thomas and Alfred McLean Placed.
John Thomas, of New Bern, and Alfred McLean, of Lillington, were today appointed field deputies for the collection of the income tax in North Carolina. Frank Hampton, of Rocky Mount, was made income tax inspector. Recommendations for these positions have been previously announced.

Manly McDowell's Position.
Judge James Webb, of Shelby, brother of Congressman E. Y. Webb, and a former collector of Manly McDowell, of Morganton, for whom the position of revenue agent is being held open by Senator Overman.

Judge Webb was assured by Senator Overman that McDowell can have the place if he wants it and indications are that McDowell will accept. The appointment and confirmation of Webb as Marshal has taken away all possible hope of his getting the Marshal's place, even though W. C. Hammon should fall to land as District Attorney. Had Webb been appointed, it is believed McDowell would have waited until the outcome of the Hammon case in order to make sure that there would be no change in the state which would favor him.

Unanimous For Col. Taylor.
Both North Carolina Senators and its ten Representatives today signed an endorsement of Col. Walker Taylor, of Wilmington, for Collector of Customs at the port of Wilmington. The letter was addressed to the President, and its concluding sentence was: "There is no finer character or better qualified man for this position in all the State of North Carolina."

Senator Overman today received an exquisite pair of cuff links from T. H. Deal, postmaster at Fairbanks, Alaska, but a former native of Western North Carolina. Senator Overman secured his appointment as postmaster. The links are of nugget gold, unpolished, in which is set a rectangular piece of ivory. The letter accompanying the gift says:
"I send you a souvenir of Alaska. It is native ivory from the tusks of an extinct mammoth. This was found on a Cleary creek claim, and was in the pay stamp more than six feet below the surface. The gold is from the same claim."
Mr. Fellowes Master of Hounds.
Edward H. Fellowes, who married Miss Bessie Tucker of Raleigh, has been made Master of Hounds of the Washington Riding and Hunt Club. This is a highly coveted honor. Mr. Fellowes has hunted extensively both in England and in several of the United States.

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* CLEMENTS REAPPOINTED,
* IMMEDIATELY CONFIRMED,
* N. C. Postmaster, Raleigh.
* Washington, Dec. 23.—Judge
* C. Clements, of Georgia, was re-
* appointed today by President
* Wilson, a member of the Inter-
* state Commerce Commission.
* The appointment was announced
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PRESENCE OF THE PRINCE OF PEARL FELT IN MEXICO

Hostilities Slacken in Battle—Torn Republic is the Advices Received

AT STATE DEPARTMENT

Military Movements Without Any Real Fighting; Quiet On West Coast

THE BANKING CONDITIONS

Americans at Panuco Ask Consul for Protection and Garrison Will Be Provided

FRENCH SHIP TO TAMPICO

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 23.—Even in rebellion-torn Mexico the holiday season is bringing some measure of peace. State department advices indicate a general slackening of hostilities and there is some hope in the nature of a battle since the important skirmish of December 12 at Altamira, near Tampico. Today's reports showed that Torreón and Cuernavaca had been re-occupied by the Generals and that the rebels had entered the towns of General Cepeda and Parra, all without real fighting.

From the west coast Commander Ziegler, on board the Anahuac, reported that the condition there was quiet; that the Constitutionalists had obtained possession of San Marcos and that they were reported to be operating throughout the whole state of Guerrero.

Establish Garrison at Panuco.
Veracruz, Dec. 23.—Americans residing at Panuco have asked the American consul at Tampico for protection, as a force of rebels is near the place. The petition has been turned over to General Zaragoza, who will establish a small garrison.

According to had weather, the Mexican gunboat Zaragoza, with Gen. Marquez on board has not arrived here from Tuxpan.

The National Bank office here was closed for a time today. The rearrangement declared, after the doors were opened again, that the step was taken for the purpose of making up a balance sheet.

French Cruiser Sails For Tampico.
Veracruz, Dec. 23.—The French cruiser Guine sailed from here this afternoon for Tampico, the commander having received an urgent call from that port.

The United States battleships Kansas and Colorado arrived here yesterday and anchored outside the harbor with the Nebraska, the Louisiana and the New Hampshire. The two latter are to leave at once for the United States.

MRS. YOUNG REINSTATED

School Supt. Whose Forced Retirement Resulted in Mass Meetings

(By the Associated Press.)
Chicago, Ill., Dec. 23.—Mrs. Ella Plagg Young, whose forced retirement as superintendent of the Chicago schools resulted in a number of mass meetings of the board, named by the Board of Education this afternoon. Thirteen voters were cast for Mrs. Young.

Seven others were present but did not vote. It is stated that the board has no power to reconsider the election of John D. Shoop, who was elected Mrs. Young's successor. Contention was also made that the four new members of the board, named by Mayor Harrison to replace four whose resignation he had enforced, were not entitled to their seats.

The action of the board in removing Shoop and replacing Mrs. Young will at once be challenged in court, it was announced.

NEW YORK GRIFT HEARING.

Additional Testimony Involving Politicians for Alleged Attempts to Extort Money.

(By the Associated Press.)
New York, Dec. 23.—The grand jury heard further testimony today in connection with charges that a certain political attempt to extort money from Anthony C. Douglas, a bidder for work on the construction of the Croton Aqueduct. Testimony against the politician also was given in another case, before the jury, which he is accused of soliciting a bribe from a State highway contractor.

The jury did not finish hearing all the evidence and adjourned until next Tuesday to hear other witnesses, Chas. N. Chadwick and John Galvin, member of the Board of Water Supply of New York City, which had charge of letting the aqueduct contracts. Charles P. Dillon, a deputy commissioner of highways and a newspaper man were examined today.

TRAINING TRIP SCHEDULE.

Of New York National League Club Announced by Secretary Foster.
(By the Associated Press.)
New York, Dec. 23.—Secretary John B. Foster, of the New York National League Club, tonight announced the following spring training trip schedule of the team:
March 14, 15, 21, 22, Dallas; 25, 29, 30, 31, Houston; April 1, Beaumont; 4, 5, 6, 7, New Orleans; 8, Mobile; 9, Chattanooga; 11, 12, Baltimore.
The training schedule of the second team is:
March 7, 8, Dallas; 14, 15, 21, 22, 25, 29, 30, Dallas; 31, 1, Beaumont; 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Beaumont; 8, 9, 10, Beaumont; 11, 12, Beaumont; 13, 14, Beaumont; 15, 16, Beaumont.